



Heathfield Agricultural Show

News

A REAL LOOK AT COUNTRY LIFE

Autumn 2023

Welcome to our new Show President

The Marquess of Abergavenny lives at Eridge Park, near Tunbridge Wells with his wife and daughter.

Eridge is a fully diverse estate including offices, shops and restaurants. It pays host to music festivals, annual and biennial fairs, survival courses, camping and a broad range of entertainment and leisure events in addition to a Deer Park Café and Farm Shop.

Eridge Park has been in Countryside Stewardship since 1994 and has a range of diversified rural activities including, supplying Waitrose with venison from the deer park.

Lord Abergavenny served as an East Sussex District Councillor from 1998 - 2006 representing Frant, Eridge, Withyham & Groombridge and was made Deputy Lieutenant of East Sussex in 2010.

Currently, Lord Abergavenny runs several family businesses and purchased the Lower Pantiles, in Tunbridge Wells, in 2011 adding this diverse property to the portfolio, encouraging community events.

His public and charity roles focus on employment for disabled ex-service members and care for the elderly and disabled; Trustee of Royal British Legion Industries, Chairman of St John Kent, a position he held for six years; President of the South of England Show, and continues to be Patron of Rotherfield St Martin, Spa Valley Railway and various other local charities.

Lord Abergavenny is the Chairman of the Countryside Forum and was previously Chairman of the Conservative Rural Forum for four years.

We now welcome Lord Abergavenny as Show President.



The Marquess of Abergavenny

A message from our Chairman

Show Day was blessed with perfect weather and once again, we had tremendous support from the public. Despite being hit with staggering increases in costs across the board, we were able to support the Show's various organisations that provide stewards and services, all which are essential to the running of the Show.

Looking forward, we hope to have recovered control of some of the major costs to the Show by engaging in three year contracts with some suppliers. This will give us a better, more accurate idea of our expenses for future years.

For 2024 we have an exciting replacement for the Flower Show. This marquee will be named the Flower Hub and I am sure it will be an excellent step forward to fill the noticeable gap in this year's Show.

Special thanks are given to Sara Stoner our retiring President who has been a great support to the Show and me. I am sure her successor, The Marquess of Abergavenny will be equally supportive and I look forward to working with him in the future.

Wishing all our members a very happy and healthy new year.

In with the new....

2023 has seen a number of volunteer changes at the Show and this Autumn two significant personnel changes have occurred; Trade Stand Secretary and Show Treasurer.

Gemma Nicholson joins us as Trade Stand Secretary, taking the reins from Kate Laird who did a marvelous job while in post.

Gemma says 'I'm excited to be taking up this role. Heathfield Show has been special to me since my childhood, I have attended every year since I can remember, except when I was travelling around Australia and NZ in my early twenties.

My varied career experience of pub and event management, pharmaceutical recruitment, gardening, horse rug laundry, proofreading and copy-editing, running my own businesses and negotiating my way through parenting three small children I hope has given me some useful skills for this interesting role.'

Derek Cordrey has joined the Show team as Show Treasurer taking over from Maria Naylor, who will now have more time to focus on her pigs and many other activities.

Derek told us 'I'm Eastbourne born and bred having spent the first 40 years in the town before finally moving to Hellingly this summer. My family and I really love the Wealden area.

I worked for Barclays Bank for 22 years then retrained to become an accounting technician and worked in both the public and private sectors in various finance roles. I enjoy helping in the charitable sector and meeting and working with people. I am excited to be joining the Show team and look forward to many years of being involved.'

New for 2024 - The Flower Hub

The Sussex Flower School in Uckfield and Flitterbrook Flower Farm in Punnetts Town are joining forces to bring us a brilliant display of seasonal flowers, an education marquee, eco floristry techniques, demonstrations and much more, all in the new Flower Hub marquee.

This area was noticeably missed this year, but the plans ahead for the new Flower Hub are progressing well.

There will be displays of seasonal flowers from local florists and growers, all using eco techniques which sits very well with the Show's sustainability ethos.

An educational corner will provide information on flower farming, seasons and what happens in the cutting garden month to month.

A local Primary school will be involved in making displays with jam jars and flowers from their gardens and there will be children's flower crown workshops running most of the day.

Regular updates about this exciting new attraction will be posted on the Show's website

£30,000 donated to local organisations and charities.

We are always very grateful to all the local organisations, charities and volunteers who help us on Show Day, without their help, the Show would not happen.

This year we donated over £30,000 to local organisations and charities who helped with the smooth running of the Show. Every one of these organisations played an important part in making Show Day enjoyable and safe for our visitors.

During the Show, Brighter Heathfield helped with litter collection and Burwash Scouts descended on the Showground on the Sunday after the Show to clear up any remaining litter. The Claude Jessett Trust provided the free Park and Ride service and Cuckoo for Cancer provided refreshments in the Sponsors' marquee.

East Hoathly Bonfire Society erected all the hedgerow boards, Heathfield Silver Band played on the bandstand and Heathfield Street Pastors manned the Judges and Stewards marquee all day.

Horam Scouts spent the whole day running up and down from the Showing rings to the Secretary's office delivering results and Tonbridge Juddians Rugby Club manned the ticket gates. Riding for the Disabled was nominated by the Vets who gave their services free on Show Day and Sussex Young Farmers helped with the dismantling and washing of all the pig pens.

The following organisations fielded teams of stewards to help guide the visitors around the Showground: Cross in Hand Bowls Club, Hailsham Young Farmers, Heathfield Rotary Club, Heathfield Rugby Football Club, Mayfield Bonfire and Wealden Wheelers.

Thank you to you all for such a great job.



Show Chairman, Bill Gower and Nicola Magill

Nicola thanked for commitment

Nicola's hard work and commitment to the Show and its ongoing success as Show Secretary was recognised by way of a specially made bell from Taylor's Bell Foundry, presented to her by the Show's Chairman, Bill Gower at the meeting of the Show Council in September.

As a keen campanologist, Nicola was thrilled with the gift which has now been installed in her woodland. She looks forward to ringing the bell to call her family together for meals!

Although Nicola has stepped aside as Show Secretary, she will still be involved with the Show as Sponsorship Secretary.

Membership applications open in January

Application to renew your membership will open in January 2024.

Attached to this newsletter is the membership renewal form which can be completed and either returned by post or email, to Di Vickery, Membership Secretary.

Due to the rising costs of postage, we are respectfully asking members, wherever possible, to consider renewing membership online and providing an email address for all future correspondence.



Heathfield Agricultural Show Membership Application Form

Show date: Saturday 25 May 2024

Little Tottingworth Farm, Broad Oak, Heathfield, TN21 8UE

Save time & postage - Renew your membership online: www.heathfieldshow.org

Please tick the appropriate box and enter the number of guest badges (if required). Prices are valid until 31 December 2024

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP £33 1 Member's Admission Badge 1 Member's Car Pass	<input type="checkbox"/>	FAMILY MEMBERSHIP £69 2 Members' Admission Badges Up to 3 Junior Admission Badges (5yr -16yr incl.) 1 Member's Car Pass	<input type="checkbox"/>	GIFT INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP £33 1 Member's Admission Badge 1 Member's Car Pass	<input type="checkbox"/>
GUEST BADGES £33	<input type="checkbox"/>	ADDITIONAL ADULT MEMBERS @ £33	<input type="checkbox"/>	GIFT DUAL MEMBERSHIP £60 2 Members' Admission Badges 1 Member's Car Pass	<input type="checkbox"/>
DUAL MEMBERSHIP £60 2 Members' Admission Badges 1 Member's Car Pass	<input type="checkbox"/>	ADDITIONAL JUNIOR MEMBERS @ £7	<input type="checkbox"/>	GIFT FAMILY MEMBERSHIP £69 2 Members' & up to 3 Junior Admission Badges (5-16yr incl.); 1 Members' Car Pass	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please make cheques payable to: **Heathfield Agricultural Show** and return to:

Mrs. Di Vickery, HAS Membership Secretary,
Pedlars Cottage, Swife Lane, Broad Oak, Heathfield TN21 8UU

Telephone: 07710 148953 (office hours only) Email: membership@heathfieldshow.org

YOUR DETAILS Please complete in block capitals

TitleForenameSurname

Address

PostcodeTelEmail

Second Applicant (for Dual or Family membership only)

TitleForenameSurname

Children's names (for family membership)

Child 1 Age

Child 2 Age

Child 3 Age

If you have moved home within the last 12 months, please tick here.

Please tick if you require a VAT receipt

I/we agree that you may keep these details on the Show database and agree that information about the Heathfield Show can be sent to us from time to time. I/we can ask at any time to see the details according to the Data Protection Act and also request removal from mailing lists. Membership runs from 1 January to 31 December each year (regardless of initial joining date). This application shall be deemed to be consent by the applicant(s) to membership of the Show. The Show will make no refund of membership subscription in the event of the show being cancelled for whatever reason.

Please tick to agree these terms and conditions of membership:

**Applications must be received by the Membership Secretary a minimum of 2 weeks prior to the Show date.
Membership packs with your entrance badges etc will be sent out approximately 2 weeks before the Show.**

SIGNED: **DATE:**